

Department of Environmental Protection

Lawton Chiles Governor Twin Towers Building 2600 Blair Stone Road Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2400 Virginia B. Wetherell Secretary

April 10, 1998

<u>CERTIFIED MAIL</u> <u>RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED</u>

Mr. Bill Hill
Code 1851
Southern Division
Naval Facilities Engineering Command
2155 Eagle Drive
P.O. Box 190010
North Charleston, South Carolina 29419-9010

RE: Final Record of Decision, Operable Unit 17 (Site 42), NAS Pensacola

Dear Mr. Hill:

I have completed the technical review of the above referenced final Record of Decision (ROD) dated February 20, 1998 (received February 24, 1998) and cannot approve it as final until the following comment is addressed.

1. The last paragraph of Section 6.3 (Baseline Risk Assessment Conclusions) needs to be modified. It discusses ecological risk related to Site 2 rather than Site 42. Comparison to the risk assessment at Site 2 is appropriate, but the ecological risk should be correlated to Site 42. I suggest the following wording:

"Ecological Risk at Site 42 was assessed in comparison to HQs which showed adverse effects to the environment at Site 2, which is another Operable Unit in Pensacola Bay and was investigated separately from Site 42. The environment at Site 42 was similar and comparable to the Site 2 area. The HQs at Site 42 were lower than those which showed adverse effects at Site 2, except for the area around the barge loading dock. The constituents of concern at the barge loading dock were PAHs which are likely from petroleum products unloaded at the dock. This contamination will be further investigated under Florida's petroleum program."

Mr. Bill Hill April 10, 1998 Final OU 17 ROD Page 2

If I can be of any further assistance with this matter, please contact me at (904) 921-9989.

Sincerely,

John W. Mitchell

Remedial Project Manager

cc: Ron Joyner, NAS Pensacola
Gena Townsend, USEPA Region IV
Brian Caldwell, EnSafe, Knoxville
Allison Dennen, EnSafe, Memphis
Karen Atchley, Bechtel, Knoxville
Tom Moody, FDEP Northwest District
Tony Ettore, OGC/Trustee File

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